

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

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FOR MAJOR PROJECTS

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: BEXP, RP
SUBJ: SUBWAYS: SEATAC CONFERENCE SAYS DON'T PUT THE PEOPLE DOWN

1. SUBWAYS AND OTHER EXPENSIVE SYSTEMS USED IN DEVELOPED COUNTRIES ARE NOT APPLICABLE TO SOUTHEAST ASIAN COUNTRIES, INCLUDING THE PHILIPPINES, BECAUSE OF THEIR "VERY HIGH INVESTMENT COST AND THE MANPOWER CONSTRAINTS INVOLVED." THIS WAS THE GIST OF THE COMMUNIQUE ISSUED AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE DECEMBER 9 - 13 CONFERENCE IN MANILA ON URBAN TRANSPORT TECHNOLOGY WHICH WAS SPONSORED BY THE SOUTHEAST ASIAN AGENCY FOR REGIONAL TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (SEATAC) AND THE PHILIPPINE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS, TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATIONS (DPWTC). ATTENDING THE CONFERENCE WERE 83 PARTICIPANTS FROM VARIOUS COUNTRIES, INCLUDING OFFICIAL DELEGATIONS FROM THE SEATAC COUNTRIES, INDONESIA, MALAYSIA, THE PHILIPPINES AND THAILAND. THE COMMUNIQUE SAID THAT MORE CONVENTIONAL BUS AND "OTHER MODES" OF PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SHOULD PROVIDE THE ANSWER TO TRANSPORT NEEDS. IT ALSO SUGGESTED LIMITATIONS ON PRIVATE VEHICLES IN CONGESTED AREAS THROUGH LICENSING AND TAXATION, AND SOPHISTICATED TRAFFIC CONTROL SYSTEMS TO ALLEVIATE CRITICAL TRAFFIC PROBLEMS.

3. COMMENT. THE ABOVE REINFORCES INFORMATION AND CONCLUSION PUT FORWARD IN MESSAGES UNDER REFERENCE.

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NNN

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